



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Gerry Blair (928) 226-5089

Aaron Dick (928) 226-5050

Three Hikers Rescued North West of Sedona

Flagstaff, AZ- The Coconino County Sheriff's Office and Arizona Department of Public Safety helicopter (Kingman) rescued three hikers from a remote location in the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness thirteen miles northwest of Sedona, Arizona on Saturday May 8.

On Saturday at approximately 2:30 p.m. the Coconino County Sheriff's Office received a call for assistance from three stranded hikers. The hiker's began their trek from near Cottonwood, Arizona, Thursday evening May 6. Their intended journey was to travel the Sycamore Basin Trail, to the Taylor Cabin trail (Trail #35) Forest Road 538 B near Casner Mountain, to Sycamore Pass near Cottonwood. The hikers became disoriented while attempting to follow the Taylor Cabin Trail and became stranded on a steep slope. They were unable to continue up the slope or return to the previous route below due to steep terrain, cliffs and unstable surface.

Coconino County Sheriff's deputies and Search and Rescue Volunteers responded along with the Arizona Department of Public Safety Air Rescue helicopter (Kingman). The flight crew located the victims on steep terrain 13.5 miles northwest of Sedona and four miles southwest of Turkey Butte.

After an assessment of the extremely hazardous terrain for ground rescue the helicopter was used to insert a sheriff's office technical rescue volunteer via Heli-Rappel to meet with the victims. All three victims were then individually retrieved using a "Short Haul" operation. They were flown to a safe landing zone southwest of their location at the top of the canyon without incident. Victims were in good condition and did not require medical attention. They were subsequently transported to Flagstaff by Search and Rescue personnel. They returned to their homes in Ajo and Phoenix on Sunday May 9.